

## Grade 5 - Narrative

### A Family Business

"101.5!" announced Mrs. Martin, holding up the thermometer. "You are staying home with Grandma. You won't be able to help us at the fair." Jonathan pulled the covers up and closed his eyes. Hopefully he would feel well soon, but right now, all he wanted to do was sleep.

Kristi was disappointed when she heard the news. She did not like seeing her brother sick, but she knew she would have to help her parents at the family's food stand at the state fair. Kristi understood the food stand at the state fair was an essential part of the family's business. Normally, she would not mind helping because she enjoyed the noise of the fair, the people, and the excitement. She even liked making the sandwiches that her family was known for, but her mind was on something she had been anticipating for a while.

Kristi had plans to go see the Harris Brothers perform this evening with her best friend, Laura, and Laura's mom. They had purchased tickets earlier to see the Harris Brothers perform at the Heartland Events Center at the state fair. The thought of not being able to go devastated Kristi because Gary and Steven Harris were her favorite musicians.

"I'm sorry, Kristi," Mrs. Martin said. "You know tonight is one of our busiest nights, and it would be hard to find someone to help on such a short notice."

Kristi and her mom went to the fair to help Dad at their "Runza Round-Up" stand. Kristi noticed the bright lights coming from the Heartland Events Center. It was a reminder of the concert later that day. She knew she probably would hear the music at the food stand, but it would not be the same as sitting in the audience.

Kristi and her mom finally arrived at their food stand. There was a long line of people waiting to get a taste of the rectangular-shaped sandwich filled with beef, sauerkraut, onions, and special seasonings. Everyone knew it as the "runza," and as the scent of the sandwiches drifted through the air, more customers joined the line.

Kristi was in the midst of wrapping the steaming sandwiches for customers when she heard a knock on the back door of the food stand. It was probably someone picking up a takeout order. She quickly wiped her hands on her apron, grabbed the sack of hot sandwiches, and pulled open the door. A man with dark sunglasses and a sweatshirt stood waiting for the sandwiches.

"Are the sandwiches for H. B. ready?" he asked quietly.

Kristi held out the sack. "Here you go, sir. That will be twenty-four dollars."

As the customer opened his wallet to pull out some cash, Kristi caught a glimpse of his driver's license and gasped. The photograph was of Steven Harris!

H. B., thought Kristi. Could that mean . . . Harris Brothers? The man smiled, paid the amount he owed, and thanked Kristi.

When the man smiled, Kristi knew right away it was Steven Harris. She would recognize that smile anywhere. He walked away biting into one of the sandwiches and returned to the stand a short while later

"The seasonings and the sauerkraut give this sandwich an incredible taste! I like it!" exclaimed the man. "By the way, are you going to the concert tonight?"

Kristi shook her head no. "I have a ticket, but I need to help my parents."

"I understand. I helped my family with their business when I was young. If it is okay with your parents, why don't all of you stop by later so you can meet the members of the band and my brother, Gary."

Kristi asked her parents. They agreed to go with Kristi after the stand closed to meet the Harris Brothers. Kristi was excited she would be seeing her favorite musicians. The rest of the night seemed to go by in a flash. She could not wait to get home and thank Jonathan.